Industry Profiles

Public Administration Industry

Revised: February 2008

Alberta

Employment, Immigration and Industry

Overview:

The Public Administration industry[1] in Alberta includes federal, provincial and local government services such as:

- defence services;
- police, judicial, correctional and other protective services;
- labour, employment and immigration services;
- foreign affairs and international assistance;
- fire-fighting services; and
- regulatory services.

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[1] North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) major group 91

Section A: Business Environment

1. 2006 Employment and Unemployment Numbers and Rates:

	Alberta	Public Administration Industry
Number of employed	1,870,700	81,100
Percent employed in the industry		4.3%
Number of unemployed	66,800	N/A
Unemployment rate	3.4%	N/A

Note: N/A is reported in instances of insufficient sample size

For more information on employment numbers or for a historical comparison, go to the Labour Force Survey or Statistics Canada websites.

2. Industry Growth:

- The Public Administration industry is expected to grow on average 1.4% annually from 2006 to 2011.
- Approximately 5,832 jobs will be created in the forecast period. Employment is expected to increase to 86,907 by 2011.
- This industry is expected to provide 2.5% of all new jobs in Alberta between 2006 and 2011.

For more information, see the Alberta Modified Canadian Occupational Projection System Outlook (2006-2011) online and the Alberta Learning Information Service (ALIS) website's industry descriptions.

Outlook

According to the *Alberta Occupational Demand and Supply Outlook (2006-2016)*, the province may expect a supply shortage of managers in public administration every year between 2007 and 2016, which will become a challenge as more employees reach retirement age. The use of contractors to reduce costs and provide access to specialized expertise continues to be a growing trend in government services.

The Public Administration industry, like many other industries, will be impacted by an aging workforce and the competition of more lucrative opportunities. The industry faces many challenges in attracting and retaining talent within Alberta's tight labour market. Sizeable salaries in other Alberta industries attract workers to the private sector. This creates challenges within the public service to retain high-quality staff.

For Police officer and fire-fighter occupations, the *Alberta Occupational Demand and Supply Outlook (2006-2016),* projects a supply surplus of workers for every year between 2007 and 2016. However, amid the hot Alberta economy, many urban and rural communities now find themselves with a decreasing number of individuals applying to become fire-fighters due to alternative opportunities in the province.

3. Company Size

Establishment Size	Alberta Businesses		Public Administration	
	Number of Employees	%	Number of Employees	%
Less than 20 employees	525,000	34.1%	16,800	20.7%
20 to 99 employees	543,600	35.3%	28,100	34.6%
100 to 500 employees	292,400	19.0%	22,200	27.4%
Over 500 employees	178,900	11.6%	14,100	17.4%

Data Source: Labour Force Historical Review 2006, Statistics Canada

Section B: Human Resources Profile

1. Occupational Information:

Some examples of occupations in the Public Administration industry include:

- correctional officer;
- firefighter;
- occupational health and safety inspector;
- customs inspector; and
- judge.

For a complete listing of all occupations related to this industry as well as detailed information on education and skill requirements, visit the Alberta Occupational Profiles website.

2. Demographics: Age and Gender

According to the Labour Force Survey, the gender break-down in the Public Administration industry:

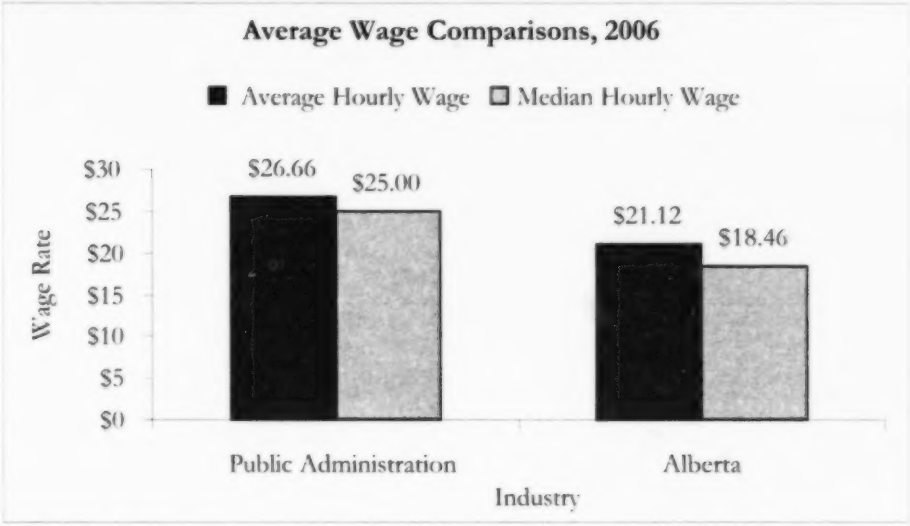
- women employed: 36,600 people, or 45.1%
- men employed: 44,500 people, or 54.9%

In comparison, women accounted for 45.3% and men made up 54.7% of the total employed in Alberta.

Age Characteristics	Alberta Employees		Public Administration	
	Number	%	Number	%
15-24 years	329,600	17.6%	4,200	5.2%
25-54 years	1,286,500	68.8%	65,000	80.1%
55 years and over	254,600	13.6%	11,900	14.7%

Data Source: Labour Force Historical Review 2006, Statistics Canada

3. Wages:



Data Source: Labour Force Historical Review 2006, Statistics Canada

Wage and Salary Information for Selected Occupations

Occupation	Average Hourly Wage			Average Annual Salary
	Starting	After 3 years	Top	
Government managers - education policy development and program administration	N/A†	N/A	$ 70.96	$ 133,752
Fire-fighters	$ 17.96	N/A	$ 18.98	$ 59,380
Correctional service officers	$ 21.23	$ 24.45	$ 23.11	$ 45,859
Survey interviewers and statistical clerks	$ 14.98	$ 16.05	$ 18.27	$ 31,422

Data Source: 2005 Alberta Wage and Salary Survey
Note: N/A due to insufficient response.

For more information on wages, refer to the WAGEinfo webpage. For job descriptions, duties, required skills and education for specific occupations in the Public Administration industry, visit the ALIS online.

Section C: Additional Information

1. Links to Selected Industry Associations:

- Alberta Union of Provincial Employees

2. Link to Government Library Database:

http://www.servicelink.gov.ab.ca/libraries/workplace/